

"FRUITLESS" GENOA PARLEY NEAR END

Not One Economic Problem Solved Is View of Andre Tardieu.

BY ANDRE TARDIEU,
Former French High Commissioner to America.

By Cable to The Star.

PARIS, April 29.—The Genoa conference drags toward its end without having solved a single economic problem. It is entangling itself daily more and more in a maze of political difficulties. Perhaps it is not easy to appreciate this from the distance of the United States, therefore it is important to emphasize it.

From the outset the conference was blocked on its economic terrain by the attitude of the soviet delegation, not only did Tolstitcher and company, their audacity reinforced by the influence of the allies, when confronted with the treaty of Rapallo, decide not to pay anything they owed, but demanded an indemnity of 50,000,000,000 rubles. Still worse, they manifested a stubborn intention not to concede any real satisfaction on the most important point of the Russian reconstruction problem—namely, the question of private property.

Whether talking about trading with Russia or equipping her for her economic restoration, the first requisite is that the traders and outfitters on which foot they are dancing. If private property is not effectively guaranteed, then commerce and enterprise is impracticable. But the soviets refuse these guarantees. There is no doubt about this issue. Any formal agreement reached cannot affect this fundamental disagreement.

Genoa Economically Dead.

Therefore, Genoa economically is dead. The soviets are disappointed, and Lloyd George more so. It means that this great idea has collapsed, and his predictions are wrecked. This is the compelling reason for his anxiety to save the face of things and substitute some sort of political result for the dead hope of economic achievement.

Instead of admitting that the conference has failed because the real object of the soviets was misunderstood, it will be said that it was sabotaged by the policy of the French. This explains the great press campaign the echo of which already has reached you.

From the very first day of the conference this campaign began. First, it was said that France would withdraw from the conference. But she stayed. Next, they declared that France would withdraw because of the Russo-German treaty. She remained even though her withdrawal would have been amply justified. Later they insisted that France would leave because of differences growing out of the proposed Lloyd George non-aggressive pact. Every day they have tried to make France responsible for failure whose only

cause has been the inability of the British premier to understand the soviet purposes although the United States has comprehended them all along.

Proposal Rejected by U. S.

The latest Lloyd George proposal for a non-aggression pact is substantially what the United States Senate virtually rejected, when it adopted the Brandegee reservation to the Pacific treaty. The purpose is to substitute it in a calm, unobtrusive manner, for existing treaties. There has even been thought of extending it by providing that during the ten years covered no penalties shall be imposed even on account of violation of existing treaties. In short, it is disarmament, but of a special kind; disarmament of those who honor their signature for the advantage of those who violate theirs.

Amidst all this Premier Poincare's speech has served only to redouble the fury of a certain section of the British press. To us Frenchmen the principal fault of this speech is that it seems to repeat word for word what Brandegee said last year in private, that he would send a policeman if the sheriff failed to collect, etc. Lloyd George's papers call it provocative. We call it ineffectual and say that it plays the game of our opponents. But that is an incident that need have no serious consequences. The French proverb says: "The Frenchman will be settled at Genoa."

For myself, I want to say that Genoa dies its economic death through the fault of the soviets and not, as many papers would try to have you believe, through the fault of the French. I have proven this and that is my whole purpose.

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RICHARD CROKER DIES IN IRELAND

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either as alderman, coroner, fire commissioner or city chamberlain. While running for election as alderman he clashed with the famous Boss Tweed and won the election, but Tweed had him legislated out of office.

One of the odd phases of Croker's career, in view of his subsequent record as Tammany chieftain, was his assertion that he went into politics to put a stop to the robbery of the city by Boss Tweed and his band of plunderers. "It was a shocking state of things," Croker declared. "I consulted Honest John Kelly and went on the warpath against Tweed and we downed him. We reformers and independent democrats took over Tammany and made the old sink of corruption the headquarters of reform."

When Honest John Kelly died, in 1885, the reins of Tammany Hall were put into Croker's hands by agreement of the district leaders. He ruled with an iron hand and brooked no interference.

As Tammany's chief he virtually controlled about 100,000 votes and influenced a much greater number. With other Tammany leaders he dictated nominations for every political office in New York city. His orders were rarely disobeyed. When a judge failed to give obedience he was disciplined by Croker's refusal to renominate him.

Collected Millions Annually.

Under Croker's rule, it was estimated that Tammany collected from city office holders, saloon keepers and others more than a million dollars a year as a campaign fund. Large business houses seeking city contracts found it necessary to consult Croker. His conduct and its relation to city affairs was the subject of occasional investigation by legislative committees, but resulted in no charge against him of violation of the law.

As the result of one of these investigations Tammany was confronted in 1885 with inevitable defeat and Croker resigned. A few years later he returned and resumed the leadership, but soon relinquished it.

Meantime he began to spend his accumulated wealth in establishing himself as a horse breeder and turfman. Having purchased many fast American horses, he went to England and established himself at Wantage, seeking honors on the British turf. It was estimated that he spent more than half a million dollars in this effort, but he declared that his returns equaled his expenses. Subsequently he purchased a home at Glencairn, Ireland, where he continued to breed and race horses. Although his famous horse Orby won both the English and Irish Derbys and his Rhodora won the Thousand Guineas stake at Newmarket, Croker did not obtain the social recognition which usually accompanied such successes. The king failed to invite him to the Derby dinner, and he was refused the privilege of training his horses on Newmarket heath.

Croker Twice Married.

Croker was twice married. His first wife was Miss Elizabeth Fraser of New York. They had nine children, of whom three died when young. Richard Croker, Jr., his eldest son, is a New York business man. Another son, Frank Croker, was killed in an automobile accident at Ormonde, Ireland. One of his daughters was married to Count Louis San Martini of Naples.

The first Mrs. Croker was sensitive to the publicity and criticism under which Croker lived, and when he went to England for his turf campaign she made her home in southern France, her death occurring in Austria, in 1914. Within a year Croker, who was then seventy-three years old, married Miss Beula Benton Edmondson, known as the Princess Sequoyah, daughter of a Cherokee and member of the Cherokee tribe, but an educated woman devoted to philanthropic work. At that time Croker maintained a home in New York, but spent his time either in Glencairn or at his home at Palm Beach, Fla.

That Mr. Croker remained a fighter even when he reached an advanced age was indicated by his litigation with three of his children by his first wife over his property, estimated to be worth more than \$2,000,000. These suits followed his marriage of Miss Edmondson.

The litigation finally culminated in

a suit in Florida in which the children, Howard, Richard, Jr., and Ethel, now Mrs. John J. Green, alleged that their father had become "enfeebled by age," was "incompetent" to handle his affairs, and that the second Mrs. Croker had obtained control of his property by undue influence.

For twenty-six days the white-haired, one-time Tammany stalwart was in court undergoing a minute examination as to his mental state and competency.

As a result the court asserted that the manner and demeanor of Mr. Croker, sr., on the witness stand "clearly suggested a man in full control of his faculties." It held further that Mr. Croker was not, as alleged, harboring "delusions and hallucinations" against his children, and also decided that charges against Mrs. Croker had not been sustained.

The former Tammany leader accepted this as complete vindication of both himself and wife, but the children announced that they would appeal the case, and early in the summer of 1921 Mr. Croker and his wife came again from Ireland to defend themselves against further proceedings.

CHILD CRUSADERS MAY GO TO CHURCH TO FACE PRESIDENT

(Continued from First Page.)

five or six years old was playing around, chattering to herself and to the reporters. At one time Mr. Daugherty said to her, "All right, honey."

Situation Is Considered.

Mr. Daugherty told the committee that the department had been giving careful consideration to the situation and he had read all the records. The government's policy in these cases, he said, was, first, against general amnesty and, second, no consideration would be given except where there were some peculiar circumstances, unless the prisoner personally made application for clemency and was properly impressed with the punishment he had received and had learned to respect the laws of the land.

He was aware, he said, that in all criminal cases it was the innocent families of the offenders who suffered most.

"Do not think because a man is the Attorney General he has no heart," he said. "I want to be kind to you, but sometimes a man's judgment has to restrain his heart."

In many of the "improperly called political prisoners' cases," he declared, it was found that the prisoners would not appear for clemency because they recognized no law and would not sacrifice their "principles." For this class, he said, no recommendation would be made to the President.

Mrs. O'Hare based her appeal on the "desire of the nation to get back to normal again," and that nothing "can be achieved by continuing war-time punishment."

Free Speech Involved.

All of the prisoners who were plead-

ing for, she said, were convicted for "expressions of opinion" and none had committed overt acts against the government. Now that the war was over, she added, she thought the President could well afford to be lenient, asserting that all other nations had liberated their "political prisoners."

Several times Mr. Daugherty and Mrs. O'Hare engaged in arguments, at one time calling forth from the Attorney General the remark that it would do no good to argue a point, as he already had well defined views on the subject.

"That is an unfortunate attitude for a government official to take," replied Mrs. O'Hare.

Mr. Daugherty agreed with her. Questioning brought from Mrs. O'Hare a statement that twenty-three of the 114 prisoners for which clemency was asked were foreign born and but five of these had become naturalized.

Mr. Daugherty drew from her, also, the acknowledgment that she had served a term "for my identification with the labor movement," but, on her request not to question her about it, he desisted.

"I won't press it," he said; "you are now out."

CHILD CRUSADERS MAY GO TO CHURCH TO FACE PRESIDENT

(Continued from First Page.)

Contributions to Fund Received by Star Total \$122.

Additional contributions to the Capt. William Lawrence fund received by The Star are: Previously acknowledged, \$114.50; Mrs. A. Bradshaw, \$2.50; C. L. Gessford, \$5. Total, \$122.

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TRAFFIC VICTIM DEAD.

E. J. MacMullan of Philadelphia Succumbs at Emergency Hospital.

Edward J. MacMullan, 5088 Broad street, Philadelphia, who was injured by a Capital Traction car at 14th and I streets Wednesday night, died at Emergency Hospital late yesterday afternoon. His death resulted from hemorrhage and shock.

Mr. MacMullan was here on a business trip and was crossing the street, when, it is stated, he appeared to become bewildered and walked directly in front of a moving car.

William Fletcher, 2816 14th street, motorman, stopped his car and went to the assistance of the injured man. At Emergency Hospital it was found that his skull was fractured and his right leg and a rib broken. Surgeons at the hospital were unable to hold out any hope for the patient's recovery. And his wife, summoned from Philadelphia, was at the hospital when he died. Coroner Nevitt arranged to hold an inquest at the morgue tomorrow.

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| Chas. Bunce Upright | \$100 |
| Used | |
| Boudoir Upright | \$145 |
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| J. & C. Fischer Upright | \$125 |
| Used | |
| Brown & Simpson Upright | \$130 |
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